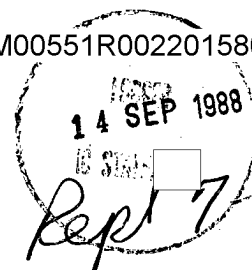


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DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
Intelligence Producers Council
Washington, D.C. 20505



IPC 7569/88
14 September 1988

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NOTE FOR: Chairman, Intelligence Producers Council
Deputy Director for Requirements and Evaluation/ICS

FROM: [Redacted]
Chief, Intelligence Producers Council Staff

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SUBJECT: FY 1989 NITs

Attached for your review is the "Foreword" to the subject document.

2. Subsequent to your review, I will prepare a package for the DCI's review and signature on the "Foreword". [Redacted] and I have discussed how to expedite this process and he stands prepared to assist us when the "Foreword" is ready for DCI signature.

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3. Meanwhile, the NIT document--less the "Foreword"--is in CPAS hands and they are putting it through the editorial process and preparing it for production. If all goes according to schedule, the printshop will commence production late next week.

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4. It appears that we have lit a fire in the Community regarding what we have done and what we are going to do with the NITs. The Staff has started to receive calls from various production offices requesting copies of the FY 89 NITs to update their production agendas. Moreover, we have received numerous requests for increased distribution. Not only do organizations want increased distribution (down to the branch level), we now have requests to send copies to Secretary Shultz and his senior deputies, Secretary Taft and his senior deputies, the Office of the Vice President, the National Security Advisor, and the White House Situation Room, etc. We will obviously accommodate these distribution requests.

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Attachment

P.S. Your early response would be appreciated.
I will be in Houston Wed, Thur, Fri of next week--21-23 Sept--and I would like to complete the package for the DCI before I depart.
My test & evaluation time for my wife.

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IPC 7569/88

SUBJECT: FY 1989 NITs

Distribution:

- 1 - Chmn/IPC (w/att)
- 1 - DDR&E/ICS (w/att)
- 1 - IPC Subject File (w/att)
- 1 - IPC Chrono File (w/att)
- 1 - ICS Registry (w/att)

IPC [] (14 Sep 88)

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-2-

SECRET []

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Foreword

This document--US Policymakers' National Intelligence Topics (NITs), FY 1989--represents the most authoritative statement of the policymaking community's intelligence needs. It has been approved by the Senior Interagency Group Committee on Intelligence Requirements and Priorities (SIG-I) as guidance for US intelligence agencies. Moreover, this document provides policymakers with a formal channel for informing the Intelligence Community of their critical needs for analysis and finished intelligence reporting. In times of proliferating requirements but scarcer resources such as we now face, the NITs take on even greater importance as a tool for focusing resources more efficiently. Above all, they are intended to enable the Community to respond better to the policymakers' specific intelligence needs. [redacted]

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The NITs are an integral part of the Intelligence Community's top level requirements structure which also includes the US Foreign Intelligence Requirements Categories and Priorities (FIRCAP) and the Compendium of Future Intelligence Requirements (COFIR). Together, these three documents detail intelligence requirements from the present up to 15 years into the future. As in past years, these NITs will be used by the Foreign Intelligence Priorities Committee to review and adjust its comprehensive guidance for prioritizing near- and mid-term intelligence topics within in the FIRCAP. In addition, it is incumbent upon the intelligence producing organizations to focus their production to satisfy the NITS. Copies of the NITs have also been sent to the DCI Collection Committees for their use in formulating effective collection strategies. [redacted]

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Several improvements have been introduced this year to ensure that these NITs are truly reflective of the priority needs of our top policymakers. Two in particular stand out. Under the auspices of the Intelligence Producers Council, a NITs Working Group, composed of representatives of the policymaking community, was established to coordinate and hone the draft document. The document itself also was retitled to reflect the fact that these are statements of intelligence needs by the policymakers. [redacted]

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The Intelligence Producers Council Staff will continue to prepare periodic progress reports for the SIG-I and for me on the Intelligence Community's production efforts against the NITs. [redacted]

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William H. Webster
Director of Central Intelligence

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